Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL), a collaborative project between the Department of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy and National Institute of Science Communication (CSIR) has been initiated with the objective of protecting the grant of patents on Indian Traditional Knowledge, in particular Ayurveda in first phase of the project. On completion , the TKDL portal will be made available to patent examiners globally which will prevent patenting by others of our knowledge.

Inclusion of new hospitals under CGHS in Kolkata

4847. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some new hospitals are being included in Kolkata to facilitate in-patient treatment to the CGHS card-holders; and

(b) if so, the details of hospitals and by when the scheme will come into effect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) In March, 2001, tenders were called for fresh recognition of private hospitals / diagnostic centres under CGHS in Kolkata. These are under process. Until such time the fresh list is notified, the CGHS beneficiaries of Kolkata can continue to take treatment in the existing list of private hospitals/diagnostic centres recognised under CGHS, Kolkata vide Deptt, of Health's O.M. dated 27.2.1996, after following the prescribed procedure.

Pre-clinical tests of AIDS vaccine

4848. SHRI K**.** RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) by when the AIDS vaccine would enter the pre-clinical tests;

(b) whether it is a fact that vaccine would counter the strain of HIV sub-type 'C' which is prevalent in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) Govemment of India has entered into an agreement with International AIDS Vaccine Initiative. USA for Research and Development in the field of HIV vaccine appropriate for HI V-I sub-type prevalent in the country. National AIDS Research Institute has already initiated basic research in this regard.